NAXALISM : AN OUTLINE OF THE MAOIST IDEOLOGY THROUGH LITERATURE, A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO *HELLO BASTAR, WALKING WITH THE COMRADES* AND *RED SUN*

A Synopsis submitted to,

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For the Award of the Degree of

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APRIL, 2019

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Introduction :

Social facet of our society is a gigantic and multifarious. As a country India is broad representative of the diverse and outstanding culture which is highly based on peace and non-violence, even though India seems disturbed internally from decades now. Thus, researcher is curious to find the answer of that 'why..?' through literature because as William J. Long says, behind every book is a man; behind the man is the race; and behind the race are the natural and social environments whose influence is unconsciously reflected (Long 2). In simple words literature can be taken as a reflection of the society because it gives an overall view of society. The view can be biased in reality or perceived as biased by society as a whole. Thus, it is exciting and curious to know the truth behind the curtains when it's about deadly lie in the society as a whole. Non-fictions are supposed to portrayed truths or real facts but now-a-days it seems that few prominent authors are using it as a tool to promote the particular or peculiar ideology.

The present research work is a study of select non-fictions of Arundhati Roy, Rahul Pandita and Sudeep Chakravarti. In their non-fictions the authors have commented on issues faced by tribes and peasants such as split between the tribals and rich, industrialization and its effects over social stability, aspirations and its dissatisfaction etc. Further they elaborate how Naxalism became the better option before these neglected units of society. But Naxalism or Maoism is actually a kind of issue which has been a balefire since its emergence till now; under this 'lake of fire' thousands of youngsters have lost their lives and generation-over-generation this insane act is retaining its validity. Hence, it is very significant to comprehend the socio-political and economic reasons behind its emergence along with the concept of core ideology of these people.

Arundhati Roy is a non-expatriate Indian author, who is quite famous in literary world because of her novel *The God of Small Things* (1997), which won the Man Booker prize in 1997; it was the best seller fiction of that time. Roy's subsequent literary output largely consisted of politically oriented nonfiction, much of it aimed at addressing the problems faced by her homeland in the age of global capitalism. Once she was charged with sedition by Delhi Police for her "anti-India" speech at a 2010 convention on Kashmir. She was criticized due to her support to Maoist-favored leftist groups, over the thoughts she portrayed in her *Walking with the Comrades* (2011). In simple words her work deals with the problems of downtrodden and poor peasants of the tribal community which then led them to be Naxals.

Walking with the Comrades (2011) is an enthralling description of the confrontation in the forests of central India between the Indian state machineries and the Maoists or Naxalites, mysterious, revolutionary red soldiers with guerrilla tactics. It is a war for the land, ideology, mineral riche forests, basic human rights, ecology - a fight, as Roy sees it, "for the soul of India." Her major works include novels such as, *Power Politics* (2001), *The Algebra of Infinite Justice* (2002), *War Talk* (2003), *Public Power in the Age of Empire* (2004), *Field Notes on Democracy: Listening to Grasshoppers* (2009).

Rahul Pandita is a journalist-cum-author. Pandita has worked as a war correspondent too, and is known for his intense reporting dispatches from the war hit states like Iraq and Sri Lanka. Pandita has many books to his account among them *Our Moon Has Blood Clots* is best-seller one, which covers the ethnic emptying of Kashmiri Hindus, which was taken as the "most powerful non-fiction book of the year". Pandita also has the *International Red Cross Award* to his account for his exposure over the Maoist-affected areas in central and east India, in 2010. He was also listed as Yale World Fellow in 2015.

Hello Bastar (2011) is an authentic and detailed introduction to the Maoist movement, brought to the readers through some fearless exploratory journalism by Pandita. It can be taken as an excellent outline to the Maoist ideology and their modus operandi. It goes a long way ahead explaining the term Maoism and its significance to

a common reader. His major works includes *The Absent State* (2010) and *Our Moon Has Blood Clots* (2013).

Sudeep Chakravarti is an Indian author. He began his career in journalism in 1985 at the Asian Wall Street Journal. He is also a professional futurist affiliated to the World Future Society situated at Washington DC. He was also a part of the India Today Conclave, which is a global platform for dialogue entirely blueprinted and established by him. His works deal with the real life issues in society. *Red Sun* (2008), is a pure attempt by Sudeep to elaborate what is mean Naxalism in detail. It touches the roots of the red uprising in India as well as their ideology. He portrayed all his real life experiences in *Red Sun* in order to let the common people know more about the Naxalism and its functioning. *The Bengalis: A Portrait of a Community* (2017), *Clear Hold Build: Hard Lessons of Business and Human Rights in India* (2014), *HIGHWAY 39* (2012) are among his notable works.

Statement of the Problem

'India's only internal security threat', Naxalism has been described like this by none other than India's former PM Manmohan Singh once while addressing the Nation, thus, it is important to take it for consideration not just because that but also to understand its political and socio-economic relevance as to the bloodier clashes between Indian defence forces and red rebels. Even after the seven decades of independence, why is India still burning within its borders? Why do Naxalism and Maoism exist even after five decades? In order to understand the nature and demands of Naxalism and Maoism, the researcher has undertaken the present research topic. The researcher through the present research work aims to analyse the core ideology, peaceful ways of negotiation, and positive-negative impact over socio-culture nature as well as root causes responsible for the emergence of Naxalism and Maoism through contemporary literature.

Review of Literature -

Prakash Singh through *The Naxalite Movement in India* (2006) comments that the Naxalite movement as a significant element in the political continuum in India. In

the book he opines that the movement celebrates a large backing due to the acceptance of its ideology in intellectual community such as writers, journalists and academicians etc.

Sumanta Banerjee in his book *Naxalites – Through the Eyes of Police* (2006) explains issue of Naxalism from the viewpoint of the police. He suggests a three-way tactic to the strategy makers to stand against Naxalism; first to destroy it by the actions of police; second to take complete control over local happenings and third is effective practice of democratic measures to influence people in order to gain their moral support against Naxalism.

Satya Prakash Dash through his book *Naxal Movement and State Power* (2006) throws light on the initial formation of Naxal movement, particularly Orissa in India which is home to millions of native tribal people. Long abandoned by the Indian state machineries because of their remoteness and oddness. He opines that Orissa is less affected area as compare to others but before it became too late for government should initiate counter strategies to solve such problems. This book elaborates ample information regarding growth and strategies of Naxalism.

P.V. Ramana through his book *The Naxal Challenge* (2008) defines the positive-negative effect of Naxalism over socio-economic structure, political relations with it. It also defines Politic-Naxal links and role of politics to resolve these issues.

P.K. Aggarwal through his book *Naxalism: Causes and Cure* (2010) comes ahead with truths like that the millions of tribals have been abandoned and oppressed. According to him real root cause behind Naxalism is unequal distribution of Land in rural India. On his work it can be conclude that if the past is any signal, it will cause an enormous disturbance, upsetting traditional existences, dislocating societies, with the manipulation of many human rights.

The authors under the research study also comment on the unbalanced social structure and worst living conditions of a contemporary India, especially poverty, unemployment, religious riots, zamindari practice and gender biasness. Theses authors also comments on corruption in established government system. In a same way they

also comments over the ambitious, selfish, greedy and hypocritical nature of landlords.

Scope of the Research -

Present research deals with the study of real life struggle of India's marginalised and oppressed people through the banks of the literary texts like, *Hello Bastar* (2011) by Rahul Pandita, *Walking with the Comrades* (2011) by Arundhati Roy and *Red Sun: Travels in Naxalite Country* (2008) by Sudeep Chakravarti.

The above novels question on the democracy and its transparency in term of tribal development. These works, question not only on government moves but also on modus operandi of Naxals. As well as this research is important to understand the Government-Naxal stand on the land acquisition by mining companies and reverse effects of industrialization in India. These works openly ask common readers that why Indian citizens are fighting against Indian citizens, because we have our national pledge that is, "India is my country and all Indians are my brothers and sisters..." have we forgotten it ?

Hypothesis -

It has assumed that the non-fiction of Arundhati Roy, Rahul Pandita and Sudeep Chakravarti throws light on the worst living condition and exploitation of tribal community and peasants and how these people attracted towards leftist ideology, especially Naxalism and Maoism. Further it can be stated that through the non-fictions one will come to know that negligence, exploitation and injustice as well as unbalanced distribution of wealth are few reasons among many of them, which are responsible for the emergence of Naxalism and so as Maoism. In light of all the non-fictions, it has assumed that a common reader will definitely come to know more and more about the demand, necessities of Naxalism movement and side effects of liberalized mining policies in India over the lives of tribes, peasants and contemporary Indian culture.

Aims and Objectives of Research Work -

01) To study the history, rise and growth of the Naxalite and the Maoist movement in India.
02) To understand why so many intellectuals in India are highly attracted and influenced by the Naxal or leftist ideology.
03) To interpret the issues of socio-political and economic conditions of tribal community through the select non-fictions
04) To explore the Naxalite and the Maoist movements through the contemporary literature.
05) To find the solution of Naxalite and Maoist movement in India.

Research Methodology

The present research will be based on a qualitative research, thus, research steps of qualitative research like analysis, illustration and comparison will be visible throughout the work. An analytical study of major concepts/themes in the non-fiction of Roy, Pandita and Chakravarti etc will be used too. Wherever it is essential, the descriptive method of research will also be used to address the major themes. Besides, one will definitely come to know that the comparative method of research will also be used in present research project. Textual analysis will be done to study the work. Main focus will be on primary data sources like non-fictions of all the three authors. Primary data will be collected and explained accordingly. Interviews, bites, speeches will be used for this research. The approach of research is going to be discourse analysis highly based on the Michael Foucault's discourse ideas. MLA 7th edition will be taken for consideration as guideline of citation and other necessary collection-arrangement of information.

Data Collection

This research study is highly based on Primary and Secondary data resources. Primary data resources includes all three non-fiction works undertaken for study and Secondary data resources includes other available contemporary literary works as well as Journals, Magazines, research articles of scholars and possibly interpersonal

discussion with subject experts, person in movement and government officials, government reports-surveys etc.

Conclusion

Democracy in India has been addressed as the precise and reliable voice of people but it seems only pertinent to the rich class people. Political work within the conservative outline of law and equality before law to every Indian are the two most desired virtues of democracy, but in reality the things are going totally reverse, rich took the higher political positions. The Forests means homelands of tribes and peasants, brutally taken away from them. Therefore, feeling of insecurity strengthened the voices of oppressed people which gave the birth to blood for blood mentality; hence, the tree of extreme leftist ideologies of the Marxist-Leninism-Maoism blossomed in India as a result of Naxalbari upsurge.

But the researcher believes that the movement, at present in 2019, seems misguided- at least in terms of its ultra-aggressive philosophy i.e blood for blood. To run a (quasi-government) Janata Sarkar is no mean achievement. As researcher opines, that violence can never be a solution to our socio-political and economical problem. Justice and equality can be attained and sustained only through meaningful dialogues and peaceful negotiation. Gautam Buddha rightly pleaded the time-tested philosophy of non-violence, which is still enormously relevant and effective in dealing with problems of socio-political nature.

Plan of Research

Tentative Chapter Scheme

The research project will be divided into five chapters as follow,

CHAPTER I: A) AN OUTLINE HISTORY, RISE AND GROWTH OF THE NAXALISM AND THE MAOISM IN INDIA.

B) REVIEW OF LITERATURE.

It will cover history, rise and growth of the Naxalism and the Maoism in India. It will also throw light on the contemporary and present literature which includes

essential information of these movements in order to understand its impact over society, culture and literature.

CHAPTER II: INTELLECTUALS VIEWS ON NAXALITE AND MAOIST MOVEMENT,

1) ROY ARUNDHATI
2) PANDITA RAHUL
3) CHAKRAVARTI SUDEEP etc.

It will deal with the opinions and views of intellectuals under research study and others too. This chapter will cover opines of Sympathizers and heaters of the movement. It will also contain critical analysis of government's views over the Naxalism and the Maoism.

CHAPTER III: SOCIO-POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALITIES OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY IN SELECT NON-FICTIONS.

It will be highlighting the worst living conditions of the people, especially tribes and peasants and reasons behind them during post-independence till 1990s. It will further analyse the reasons as to why the poor peasants and tribes turned towards Maoism and Naxalism.

CHAPTER IV: NAXALISM AND MAOISM IDEOLOGY: AT A GLANCE

In light of all three select non-fictions and other available resources this chapter will deal with the study of the core ideology of Naxalism and Maoism. It will also comment over the validation and relevance of any such movement in India at present.

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION

It will project overall conclusion of the researcher out of his research. It will also include findings, suggestion's and opines of the researcher on Naxalism and

Maoism. It will also reflect predictions about present-future existence of Maoism and Naxalism in India.

Note: As the research progresses so alteration is needed if any.

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